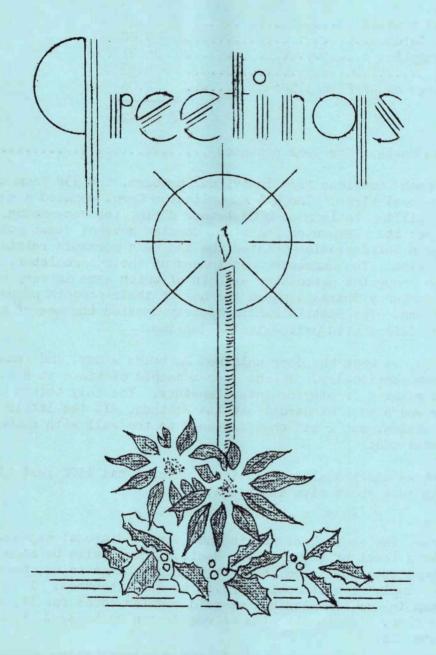
Vol. 20 - No. 6

Dec. 1961



The editors wish to extend to all members their very best wishes for their holiday season, and the hope that the coming year may be the best one they have ever had, both fannishly and mundanely.

FINAL SEACON REPORT -- G. M. Carr

Income: Janie Lamb (NFFF) Donations before the Convention Contributions at the Con. Contributions after the Con.	33.00 4.06
Expenses: Plastic cups and saucers Stamps and Post Cards Groceries and supplies Tips at hotel Postage to Chicago on NFFF supplies	3.00 26.71 8.50
	\$ 43.52
Remitted to Chicon Hostess for 1962 expenses	\$ 5.00

In addition to cash donations from individual members, the N3F Room was stocked by donations from local firms. The H & M Duplicator Corp. donated a quire of stencils, and was willing to loan us a Gestetner during the convention, if we had had any place to put it. Carpenter Paper Co. donated several "test packets" of stationary. Western Refrigeration donated the use of a portable refrigerator, and a typewriter and stand. The Nameless Ones loaned us their percolator, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wyman also brought a percolator — both of which came in very handy. Art and Nancy Rapp (nee Nancy Share) donated the use of their popcorn popper and also provided the pop corn. The Seattle Dahlia Society donated the use of a dozen display containers filled with prize-winning dahlias.

As Alma suggested, we kept the door unlocked 24 hours a day, and fans were in ar out of the N3F Room continually. I went over a couple of times at 6 A.M. and they were still up and yakking or playing Interplanetary. The only things I lost were a plastic tumbler and a deck of cards. At the Pittcon, all the little ceramic decorations were stolen, but I had them fastened to the wall with rubber bands and didn't lose a single one.

Please note that we had a small convention. Chicago had 1500 last time, so I'd recommend ordering just about five times what I had.

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((Editor's note: The above does not include some additional expense handled direct -- possibly a total of \$20 or \$25. Mention should also be made of the fact that the Seacon Committee furnished the room without charge to us, because they felt that we were supplying a valuable service to all attendees. It would have put a serious cramp in our finances had we paid regular rates for it, so our sincere thanks to them. Our thanks also to our Seacon Hostess, G. M. Carr, for the really fine job she did.))

It now seems fairly certain that Washington, D.C., will host the 21st World Science Fiction Convention in 1963, which will be known as the "Discon", barring some unannounced "dark horse".

"... we've regretfully decided that we'll have to wait until 1966 to make a bid, writes Hal Lynch, one of the leading lights of Philadelphia fandom, "We also like the gang down in D.C. too much to struggle against them, though when we consider how much grief goes into putting a con on, maybe we're not being very friendly at that!"

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Well, gosh, there just hardly aren't any this time. Ye Ed holds forth on pages 2 and 3, committee reports start on page 4, and the financial report is on page 8. No articles, no columns or features -- guess everybody forgot to write them and I was too busy to twist their arms.

Editor: Ralph M. Holland Associate Editor: Dora G. Holland 2520-4th St, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, U.S.A.

Deadline for next issue: Material must be in our hands by January 10th.

ELECTION RESULTS

President:			
	Ralph M. Holland 101	Scattered	3
Directors:			
1:	Nancy J. Rapp 80	G. M. Carr	66
	Alma Hill 79	Stan Woolston	61
	Albert J. Lewis 79	Phil Harrell	49
	Howard DeVore 78	Scattered	6
	Don Franson		

Names in the first column are elected. G. M. Carr is the First Alternate in case any of the five are unable to serve on Jan. lst. Nancy Rapp is designated as Acting Chairman until the Directorate chooses its permanent Chairman.

O F F I C E R S -- There has not been sufficient time since the end of the vote to name a full slate of officers. A few are named below, and the whole list will appear in the next TNFF.

Secretary-Treasurer, Janie Lamb, Route 1, Box 364, Heiskell, Tennessee Membership Activities Dept., Art Hayes, RR 3, Bancroft, Ont., Canada (Domain: Recruiting Bureau, Welcommittee, Follow-Up Committee)

Public Relations Dept., Albert Lewis, 1825 Greenfield, Los Angeles 25, Calif.

(Domain: Public Relations director, Publicity Director)
Manuscript Bureau, Ed Ludwig, 455 Tuxedo Ave., Stockton 4, Calif.
Round Robins, Seth Johnson, 339 Stiles St., Vaux Hall, N.J.
Fanzine Clearing House, Seth Johnson, " "
Ehicon Hostess, Martha Beck, 647 E. 47th Place, Gary, Ind.
Westercon Hostess, Ann Chamberlain, 2440 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles 6, Calif.

WESTERCON XV

The 15th Annual West Coast Science Fantasy Conference will be held at the Alexandria Hotel in Los Angeles, June 30 and July 1, 1962. Registration fee is \$1.00. Checks should be made payable to the Treasurer: William B. Elleren, Westercon XV, P.O. Box 54207, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles 54, Calif.

Ann B. Chamberlain has been named NFFF Hostess for the conference, as well as Assistant Treasurer for the purpose of receiving membership applications and dues during the Westercon.

This is being written before the election returns are in (you'll find them under the "Table Of Contents", which is the last page run) but I can safely say that we have a good Directorate because all the candidates were sincere and experienced.

Judging by some letters and other comments, there seems to be misunderstanding as to the scope and duties of the various officials, so it might be well to review the provisions of the Constitution (as interpreted at great length by qualified legal authority a few years back.)

The basic set-up is similar to that of the U.S. Government in that we have our "Legislative" or policy-making branch (the Directorate), and our "Executive" or administrative branch (the President). The Directorate, in brief, says "what", and it is then the duty of the President to take over and say "how" and "who" -- if he is able to find the necessary "who's" among the membership.

The Directorate discusses and either approves or rejects new projects, which may have been suggested to them by some member, or developed within their own ranks, and appropriates the necessary funds if it involves any expense. If approved, the President then tries to find someone for the job, and outlines the procedures in a general manner. It has been my practice to allow appointees to run their job as they felt they could do it best, so far as possible, and select their own aides. Under the Constitution, however, the President is still responsible for all other officers, since they are in theory acting as his deputies, and so he is the one to toss the bricks at if you don't like the way any bureau or committee is run. The Directors frequently "wear two hats". As members of the Directorate they help to

establish policies and then, as a Presidential appointee may have charge of running one of them. However, this does not change the basic set-up.

Both are given other duties and powers. The Directorate acts as a trial board if one is needed, and can impeach a President. It may also review the appointments or acts of the President if it deems it necessary, altho they have never done so within my memory and such an expression of "no confidence" should naturally be followed by the President's resignation.

The President can remove any appointed or elected officer (including one of the Directors) but the remaining Directors could overrule him if they disapproved. I can only recall one occasion where the President declared a Directorate post to be vacant, and that was when the entire Directorate had gafiated and it was necessary to clear the ground for a special election.

The powers of the Directorate are also limited. They cannot do anything which is contrary to the Constitution, or civil law, or too seriously in conflict with accepted parliamentary proceedure. And, of course, they can always be overruled by the membership which, in the NFFF as in every club, is the final and supreme authority.

The NFFF Short Story Contest was a real success. I acted as "first reader" in one catagory -- SF -- to screen out the



worst of the crud in order to make the work of the final judge (in this case, Cele Goldsmith, of Amazing) lighter -- but I found none in the real "crud" class. All were at least acceptable fanzine fiction, and some of them were close to pro class in my opinion -- or could be with slight revisions. I am not trying to prejudge them for Miss Goldsmith, but I would not be suprised if she found some worth developing even if they may not be quite ready yet.

There were 8 short and 15 short-short stories sent to me, altho I will say that we were stretching the definition of "science-fiction" a bit to so classify many (in fact, "most") of them. They were interesting reading -- many of them very much so, but their relationship to real S-F was a bit remote in most cases. I saw nothing to hint of any budding Vernes, or Wells', or Gernsbacks -- none who boldly took a logical step beyond the science of today into new worlds. If S-F is to survive, it must always keep a step or two ahead of mundane science. One cannot write of the world-of-tomorrow in an effective manner if they lay their scene in the science of yesterday. Which, of course, takes a writer who is not only a good writer, but also a qualified imaginative scientist. However, now that we have made the beginning, and have smoked out some new writers, perhaps this other will come in time too.

I do not have figures on the number of entries in the other catagories, but Ed Ludwig will have a report elsewhere, and should have this information.

Everyone concerned seems to think that this should be an annual affair. The final decision will be up to the Directorate, of course, but I think I can safely predict that they will O.K. it. So why not get started on your 1962 entry NOW. How do you know you "can't write"?? Send in your entry and let the judges decide that. You might be pleasantly suprised.

The NFFF ought to have some sort of award trophy for outstanding fannish service either in or out of the club (anyone for designing a "Neffer"?) In the meantime, a special Presidential Citation to Lloyd Douglas Broyles for his outstanding fan directory: "Who's Who in Fandom". I thought I was beyond the "goshohboyohboy" days long ago, but that was my reaction when I opened the envelope and saw what a job he had done. You fans who didn't bother to return the questionaire he sent you are going to hate yourself for missing out, because here's one fan who, when he says he's going to publish something, really delivers the goods in a king-sized way. And you'll also hate yourself if you don't get a copy, so if you don't have one, rush 50¢ (it's a steal at that price!!) to Lloyd at Route 6, Box 453P, Waco, Texas. Like they're always telling you on T-V -- they do things up big down there.

Looks as if 1962 is going to be a big year for the NFFF. I'm almost afraid to outline all the things which we plan to do next year for fear of putting the whammy on them — I'd rather have them be a pleasant suprise than to promise them and then have someone gafiate out and ruin the project. However, I can say that Don Franson has made the long over-due revision of the "fanspeak" leaflet, which will issue as "Fandbook". This is all ready for stencil cutting and publication as a joint project of the NFFF and LASFS as soon as the Directorate approves the appropriation.

The Collins Index is already in the hands of the members, having been sent out with the last Tightbeam as the personal gift of Art Hayes. Collectors will find this of great value, and the thanks of the club to Collins and Hayes.

The combination of a very heavy load of correspondence and some flu bugs made it impossible to send out the promised revised list of fanzines with this issue, but it will definitely go out with the February TNFF as a separate leaflet.

Last but not least, we definitely will have some extra-special doings for our Birthday Party at the Chicon, and plans are being worked on to let members who are not at the Con share in at least some of the festivities.

Remember, all dues expire on Dec. 31st, so check the roster sent out with the previous TNFF, and if you are not paid up for '62 or beyond, rush your renewal to Janie so that you'll not miss anything.

I've placed an advertisement for F.C.H. in Amazing classified on the basis of fifty dollars a year, including both Amazing and Fantastic. Went in to see Cele Goldsmith and she introduced me to one of her clever advertising men, and we drew up the ad together with the agreement that if there weren't at least sixty sales by the time my twenty dollar deposit ran out, we'd cancel the thing. I have just about that amount accumulated from F.C.H. sales, so this puts the F.C.H. in the red but also might put it on the map. The first advertisement will appear about Jan. 10th. I hope that this may be the breakthrough to the general reading public, which has been one of the things holding it back. If it works out then perhaps we'll start advertising in F&SF.

Incidentally, a spate of recent orders due to Art Hayes promoting it in his publications has resulted in my being cleaned out of all non-N3F fanzines, although there's plenty lying around if I care to use issues before 1961. So far, I've just been sending out what come more or less on a subscription basis, or rather on the basis of L.O.C's I've been writing for all fanzines received. In case of running short, I wonder how many elder fen in the N3F would be willing to make up bundles of their current fanzines to be sent out under F.C.H. auspices.

((Editor's note: F.C.H. is Seth's personal fanac, but approved and recommended by the Directorate. It consists of sending bundles of fanzines to neo-fans, at one dollar per bundle, to cover postage and advertising, to let them see a cross section of representative fanzines — both NFFF and non-NFFF. Cooperation with the zines has been rather poor, but even so it has brought more new members into the NFFF than any other single activity. As President, I am glad to endorse it 100%, and recommend that all members do all possible to help it along. -rmh))

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT -- Albert Lewis.

The public image of a group is compounded of several things; the positive accomplishments of that group, the public activities of that group, and the individual behavior and accomplishments of its members.

The outstanding accomplishments of the N3F this year were in the form of public activities. The Westercon meeting was an innovation which will certainly be repeated in later years, and proved an unqualified success. Even more successful wes the Seacon Welcome Room, and these two public appearances, with the showing made at Pittcon last year, have done more to impress upon fandom the existence of the N3F as a "doing" organization than anything the club has done since the first Fancyclopedia.

An equally favorable showcase for the N3F is its Official Organ under Ralph Hollard. Always impeccable, this is one of the most praised assets, both within the N3F and out of it. Somewhat less successful has been Tightbeam. The March issue was delayed nearly two months and the September issue was almost totally illegible. The last was certainly a black eye, though in view of Bob Lambeck's excellent reproduction on other items such as Janey's Journal, it could hardly have been foreseen. To somewhat atone for these lapses, at least three other publications during the year acquired a sort of quasi-official status by being distributed to the entire N3F membership: Amazing, Sexy, etc. the extemporaneous one-shot by LA N'Apans, Janey's Journal, thanks primarily to Marijane Johnson, Clayton Hamlin and Bob Lambeck, and Index of S-F Collections by Caroll Collins which was published and distributed by Art Hayes with the November Tightbeam. Also Art Hayes' Thru The Haze began to fill the expressed wishes of many for an N3F newszine.

The most important accomplishment of the N3F this year in terms of a potentila

for real service was the story contest which closed September 30, with what results I have not yet heard. Although well publicized within the club, publicity outside the group was sporadic, due to such variant causes as a Directorate delay in opening the contest to non-Neffers, the very close deadline when it was announced and the short notice of change, etc. If this contest has met with any degree of success, it should auger well for a more thoroughly prepared and publicized contest next year.

While the N3F can rack up a number of positive accomplishments this year, there was one notable exception: the lack of adequate information available in printed form to explain the N3F and fandom to outsiders. The situation was made particularly obvious when Ed Bryant came up with his list of 30 prospects and Neffers were confronted with the problem of having to explain fandom at length 30 times over in personal letters. Don Franson's proposals, as well as a couple now before the Directorate, should alter this situation within the first quarter of 1962. A final decision in regard to the Neo-Fan's Guide should also remove a perennial irritation.

The deficit in the publications department has also created another situation: a number of those who have been recruited on the basis of the strong showing at Westercon and the Worldcons have expressed disillusionment with what they actually received upon joining the N3F. In most cases these were experienced fen, to whom Welcommittee letters from neos had little attraction. The fact that even with a very soft-sell approach we are in some measure overselling our product is perhaps the best indicator of how successful our Convention appearances have been.

While it may not be fair to judge a group by the individual actions of its members, a group nonetheless is judged in this way. The damaging image which some have built up has already been discussed in the pages of Tightbeam. Equally, though the group as a whole played no part, the N3F gains credit from the fact that both the recent TAFF candidates, Ron Ellik and Dick Eney, were members, and that when Ron goes to England next year he will be representing the N3F. The fact that Doug Broyles was unknown to fandom, except as an anonymous Neffer, until the publication of Who's Who in Fandom, which Ron Bennet has called the "sercon publication of 1961", will also reflect credit on the group. The active participation of Neffers on the Westercon and Seacon committees, and on the next year's Westercon committee, also helps create an impression of the N3F as an active, efficient group. The Official Editors of three of the apa's are also Neffers this year: Marion Zimmer Bradley of FAPA, Bruce Pelz of SAPS and, of course, Jack Harness of N'APA.

Thus, 1961 has, in the main, been a good year in terms of the N3F and its relations with the rest of fandom. I think we can look forward to at least as successful a year in 1962.

IN MEMORIAM

Those who met NFFF Member Carl Carter at the Seacon will be saddened to learn that he was killed on September 17th.

Carl was a logger, and was working alone at the time of the accident, but it appears that a rolling log caught him from behind and crushed him against his tractor. He was not found until several hours later.

He was a former Neffer, who reinstated at the Con, where many may recall him as a very formibable opponent at chess, which was his favorite game.

It is somewhat difficult to find words to express one's feelings at a time like this, but I think I can speak for the club in extending our deep and sincere sympathy to his wife and three-year old son, Timothy Carter.

MANUSCRIPT BUREAU -- Ed Ludwig, Chairman.

This report-period finds this Bureau taking a deep breath after its preliminary judging and classification of manuscripts entered in the NFFF Short Story Contest.

As anticipated by the judges, the majority of manuscripts arrived fairly close to the deadline of Sept. 30. There is now a total of 49 scripts in all catagories. One returned to its writer because of its too-great length makes a total of exactly 50 scripts submitted. There were eight long stf stories and fifteen short; seven long fantasies and five short; and four long weird and three short.

Suprisingly enough, more than half of the submissions fell near the catagory we described as "border-line professional or semi-pro fiction -- the type written by an amateur who is very close to selling, or by a pro who bangs out a dud under the influence of a hangover." While some of these had professional touches, there were also occasional marks of the non-professional.

There were several bad stories, but even these were good enough to be considered passable fanzine fiction. There are at least three stories that your Chairman considers professional, and these have at least a fair chance of selling.

At this moment the stories are still being mailed to and from the preliminary judges. I hope to have the final decisions ready for the next TNFF. If not, the winners should be notified by mail shortly after its publication.

The Bureau, as well as most of its writers, seems to have been occupied mainly with the Contest these last few months, but requests for material and submissions have been continuing.

Scott Neilsen, of <u>Infanity</u>, has taken a true Korean War experience by Donald W. Anderson, and an article: "Radio Telescopes and the Creation of a New Science" by Richard C. Finch.

"The Fallacy of the Evil Eye", by Leo Louis Martello, Director of the American Hypnotism Academy, has been accepted by Jack Chalker for his Mirage. Also taken by Mirage are "The Mother I Loved", by John Pesta; and "And Then There Were None", by David L. Travis — which has already appeared in the zine's last issue.

Lenny Kaye has taken two illos by Joni Cornell for Obelisk. "The Amazing Amazon", by Mike Deckinger, a humorous piece by Bill Mallardi, and eight drawings by the "cat-woman" (Joni) have been accepted by Robert N. Lambeck for his zine (title at present unknown).

Henry Stine has perhaps broken the record for acceptances for his new and ambitious zine. Taken are a poem: "Madness", by Jan Francisco; a story by Charles Waugh: "An Ancient Thing"; a tale by Don F. Anderson: "The City"; Ray Nelson's "In Tune With The Times"; and G. M. Carr's "... And The Daughters of Men Were Fair,"

Under consideration and probable acceptance with John Jackson for his new zine are: "The Horses For Mr. Case", by Sarah Gordon; a true experience by John Melville: "The Call That Saved Their Lives"; a poem: "Dumbesque", by George Jay Crawford; a story: "The Lost Legion", by Don F. Anderson; and two poems: "Starship Lost" and "The Soul of Joe", by Scott Neilsen.

Just how many Contest story winners will be published under the auspices of the NFFF or by its sponsors is not yet known. Despite the number so published, there will no doubt remain a good number of top-flight fan yarns. Fan eds should put in their requests to consider this material as soon as possible. The gloomy days of rationing out stories is over!

In the "man bites dog" catagory, readers will be surprised to know that a fanzine publishing group has bought a prozine. Science-Fiction Times, Inc., (Neffers Jimmy Taurasi and Frank R. Prieto, Jr.,) have purchased the title and all rights to Science Fiction Stories, former Columbia Publications zine, according to a scoop in Axe. An "ash can" ish has been put out to retain the copyright -- future plans still in process, altho it is announced that it will be mimeographed for the time being, and will specialize in high-quality fan fiction. No payment for contributions can be made at present.

ROUND ROBINS -- Seth Johnson.

New Robins from number 103 to 113 have been launched. I'd like to appeal for more older members of the NFFF to volunteer for five Robins or so. They won't get involved all at once, but over a year or so they will be gradually started in Robins with newcomers from the Welcommittee fanac. I'm really strapped because new fans simply cannot run a good Robin all by themselves. They have to have at least two or more who are familiar with Robins and letterhacking in general to make it interesting. Once they've survived a few rounds, then they are able to do the same for other neos as they are recruited.

I have also started something I call the Quad -- like a Robin except all participants carbon their letters and mail to everyone at the same time. This tends to make the thing faster and thus more interesting. I have to copy a route sheet with each round just to give the mailing rotation, but otherwise not much more trouble than a Robin. I intend to do some experimenting with this -- have one quad restricted to five people, and another in which I stipulated that it was to remain open for unlimited participation.

Eventually I hope to get enough people together so that we can have one fan with a spirit duplicator, and have the gang send their contributions to him on master to run and mail. This is still strictly in the discussion stage, but eventually we might wind up with something entirely new in the way of fanac and communication—something with all the advantages of an apa group but with unlimited membership and participation.

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RECRUITING BUREAU -- Richard Finch.

Glancing over the list of members for December 1959/January 1960, when I first joined the NFFF, it shows 193 in comparison to the present 212. A big fat gain of 19 members in approximately 2 years. This would have been all right if we had held more of those who belonged then.

There are bound to be some drop-outs (actually 87). Subtract 87 from 193, and what's left? A nucleus of 106 members. That means that we have 106 completely new members as compared with the roster then. If 50 hadn't dropped out, the roster would now read 262. Of all new members, I hope to keep 50 of each 100 who join in the future. It is up to everyone in the club to assist in keeping this many in, if only by telling me why you want to quit (if you do.)

One of Finagle's Laws states: "If anything can go wrong, It will." But anything that goes wrong can be corrected, provided everyone works to correct it. Not only that, but improving the existing structure of the club should be a continuous and willing task.

Balance brought forward Dues collected		
Total		\$ 357.50
Disbursements:		
Holland, for TNFF	\$ 25.00	
Hayes, for Tightbeam	18.00	
r .	\$ 43.00	43.00
T ₁ 0		
New balance carried forward		\$ 314.50

NEW MEMBERS

Peter Fieber, Bremerhaven-G, Grashoffstr 39, III, Western Germany. John Gentile, 4020 S.W. 5th Terrace, Miami 44, Florida Frederick Gottschalk, MOQ 302, MCAS, Cherry Point, N.C. Patt Scott, P.O. Box 401, Anacotes, Washington David Vanderwerf, R.R. 2, Redwood Falls, Minn. Robert Vining, 636 Sycamore St., Decatur, Ga.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Joseph Casey, 608 Newark Ave., Jersey City 6, N. J. (correction)
Ron Ellik, 1825 Greenfield, Los Angeles 25, Calif.

Eva Firestone, Box 555, Upton, Wyoming
Lady Barbara Hutchins, Box 29246, Texas Christian Univ., Fort Worth, Texas
Robert Jennings, Box 1462, Tennessee Polytechnic Inst., Cookeville, Tenn.
Albert J. Lewis, 1825 Greenfield, Los Angeles 25, Calif.
Bob Lichtman, 1510A, Hearst, Berkeley 3, Calif.
Earl Noe, Parkhill House, Avenue J, Huntsville, Texas
Frederick Norwood, 290 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge 39, Mass.
Les Sample, c/o Johnny Boylston, 1228 Jennings Ct., Columbia, S.C.
Mrs. Barbara G. Schmidt, North Maple St., Islip, L.I., N.Y.

LOST

NEFFERS

Carl E. Carter -- Deceased.

Robert E. Abbott, Andy Main, Irving Siegel, John P. Tucker -- mail from all these has been returned by the post office as undeliverable at last known address.

TIGHTBEAM

Editor for the next issue of Tightbeam, our letterzine, is:
Albert J. Lewis, 1825 Greenfield, Los Angeles 25, Calif.
If this issue gets to you after Dec. 10th or 15th, it is probably too late to get a letter to him, and better send it to the next editor. Otherwise, rush a letter via Air Mail.

Editor for the issue to be mailed on March 1st is:
Ray C. Higgs, 813 Eastern Ave., Connersville, Indiana.
Get your letters to him as soon as possible, so that he can be stencilling them up in his spare time. Tightbeam is YOUR letterzine -- write.

Check the roster sent out last month. If it says '61 after your name -- renew now.